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LETTER DATED 10 FEBRUARY 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to write to you regarding the letter addressed to Your Excellency by Mr. Muhamed Sacirbey on 2 February 1993, published as a document of the Security Council (S/25219), and would like to draw your attention to the following:

The Security Council has been informed in detail of the numerous acts of armed aggression and provocations by Muslim forces from Bosnia and Herzegovina directed against the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, by the letters from President Dobrica Cosic of 17 January 1993 (A/48/66-S/25117) and Minister of Foreign Affairs Ilija Djukic of 3 February 1993 (S/25229).

Due to the scope and intensity of the aggression, the FR of Yugoslavia was compelled to request the Security Council's immediate action. However, in order to deter attacks of Muslim forces and protect its territory and civilian population, the Army of Yugoslavia acted in self-defence and returned fire from its territory.

Although the frequency of aggressive acts against the territory of the FR of Yugoslavia fully deserves to be responded to with all available means, the FR of Yugoslavia, consistent to its peaceful orientation, has endeavoured to limit its military response to the lowest possible level. As we pointed out on many previous occasions, the goal of the Bosnian Muslim militant leadership is to provoke a conflict and draw the FR of Yugoslavia into war in order to undermine the whole peace process and bring about military intervention in the territory of the former Bosnia and Herzegovina and the FR of Yugoslavia.

Consequently, the letter which contains unsubstantiated allegations is just another step in a series of attempts to deliberately mislead the Security Council. The letter speaks about aggression "of powerful aggressive forces against the poorly armed, hungry and sick population", which is the culmination of hypocrisy. The facts presented in the above-mentioned letters from the President of the FR of Yugoslavia, D. Cosic and Foreign Minister

I. Djukic unambiguously show that what is involved here is not a "poorly armed, hungry and sick population" but well armed fanatical warriors who brutally terrorize the Serbian population in pursuit of a policy of genocide and ethnic cleansing of Serbs from their ancestral homes along the left bank of the Drina River, particularly in the areas of Zvornik, Bratunac, Skelane, Vlasenica and Sekovic.

The allegations about the aggression of the Army of Yugoslavia against the Bosnian Posavina are far-fetched and unfounded and, as such, deserve no comment or denial. It is a well-known fact that the Army of Yugoslavia left the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina long ago, so that the allegations about 100 tanks and 16,000 troops of the Army of Yugoslavia in Posavina and about their offensive against Orasje and Gradacac are intended to mislead the Security Council and the international public.

In the meantime, the Muslim forces continue their attacks on the territory of the FR of Yugoslavia, particularly by shelling towns and villages along the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina. Even today, they launched artillery attacks in the area of Banja Koviljaca, in Yugoslavia. They have also engaged in the practice of sending boats filled with explosives across the Drina River with a view to causing structural damage and generating fear and anxiety among the civilian population in Yugoslavia.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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